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Mercury&Citizen

Thursday, January 6, 2011 FREE EVERY WEEK

Beat the January blues with our guide to what's on TV, at the cinema and theatre – see inside . . .

Fly-tippers blamed for recycling mess

A SUPERMARKET giant has blamed persistent fly-tipping for the frequent poor state of a recycling centre in Northampton.

Bosses at Tesco have come under fire from residents and shoppers for the state of the recycling centre at its Mereway superstore.

The depot has frequently been targeted by fly-tippers, who have dumped mattresses, tins of paint, car tyres, rolls of carpet and other household junk at the centre, which is supposed to be for recyclable goods only.

On Monday, residents arrived at the centre to drop off bottles and cardboard boxes following the festive period, but instead found the depot swamped with rubbish and overflowing with recycling items.

One resident said: "This would appear to be an ongoing problem. I have never seen this sort of thing at the recycling site in the Sainsbury's store, at Sixfields, which leads one to wonder if Tesco really cares at all about the 'facilities' they provide. I am afraid that once again it leads one to the view that Tesco's whole attitude boils down to nothing but making as much money as they can and hang the consequences or peripheries in the local community."

As the landowner, Tesco is responsible for the maintenance of the site, while Northampton Borough Council collection crews have the responsibility of collecting recycling from the area.

The borough council has previously warned the responsibility of keeping the centre tidy was ultimately down to the supermarket giant and that it would not continue to subsidise the clear-up.

But yesterday, a spokesman for the supermarket said it was doing all it could to try to keep the area clear for people to use, blaming fly-tipping for the state of the depot. The spokesman said: "We work very hard to keep the recycling area clear.

"If customers see fly-tipping, please let a member of staff know immediately."

Councillor Trini Crake, cabinet member for environment, said: "This morning our officers filled three collection vehicles with recycling from Tesco's Mereway site. Over the last few months the store has made improvements that have reduced the amount of fly-tipping at the site.

"However, there are busy periods when the recycling point can become a victim of its own success and we will help the store in making sure all of the items are collected and disposed of."

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Bypass top of wish-list

A WISH-LIST of major development projects Northamptonshire County Council would like to see carried out in the area has been drawn up for submission to the Government.

The list includes the creation of the long-delayed Flore bypass, improvements to Northampton town centre, the redevelopment of Northampton Station, the creation of a super-fast broadband system in the county and plans to build new hotels close to the Silverstone circuit.

The list has been put together in response to the Regional Growth Fund, a £1.42 billion pot of cash the Government is planning to hand out to regeneration schemes across the country over the next three years.

Members of the county council will discuss the wish-list next week, when they will hear the cost of preparing plans for submission to the Government in time for the deadline of January 21 was likely to be £21,000.

But in a report which will be seen by members of the authority's cabinet, Sarah Naylor, from the council's external funding team, said spending the money to draw up the plans was worthwhile because they could create a lot of new jobs in the area, backing one of the main aims of the Government scheme.

She said: "It's understood that some county councils across the country, particularly in the more southern areas, have indicated they may not promote bids for the January submission, due to the Government stating it will be tough for some more prosperous areas of the country, including Northamptonshire, to secure investment.

"However Northamptonshire has the potential to perform well in terms of stimulating job creation.

"This fits with the first objective of the growth fund."

The first bid the council is expected to make to the Government would be for £6 million to build the long-awaited Flore bypass.

The need for a bypass has been known for years, with people in Flore – as well as those in nearby Weedon and Upper Heyford – calling for the new road because of the high volume of traffic which currently uses the A45 as the main link road between Northampton and Daventry.

The West Northamptonshire Development Corporation also supported calls for the new road in May 2009, when it provided £400,000 to investigate how the road could be built.

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Death of Cobbler who faced Best

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former Northampton Town Football Club star and lifelong Cobblers fan who died on New Year's Day.

Northampton-born John Clarke, who was known as Nobby, died aged 64 following a heart attack.

The former footballer played for Northampton Town between 1965 and 1975, making 262 league and cup appearances for the Cobblers.

His time with the club came when the team was falling down the divisions, but he took part in one of the club's most infamous games, the 8-2 defeat against Manchester United in 1970, which famously saw George Best secure a double hat-trick.

Speaking to the *Chron* in 2005 about Best's performance, Mr Clarke, who set up one of the Cobblers' goals, said: "He was an amazing player. People in the area will always remember those goals he scored against us.

"He had an amazing game and tore us to ribbons.

"I sometimes wonder what the score would have been if he hadn't been playing."

Early on in his football career, Mr Clarke earned youth international honours with England.

He signed for the Cobblers in the summer of 1965 after the team beat Leeds United for his signature.

After learning of his death, a spokesman for Northampton Town said: "John was a season ticket holder at Sixfields and loved nothing more than meeting ex-team mates who turned up at the ground as guests.

"We send our thoughts to John's friends and family. May he rest in peace."

During his time with the Cobblers, Mr Clarke scored once, against Barnsley in the season before he was forced to retire from the game because of an injury.

After leaving the County Ground, he became manager of British Timken's football team and worked as a wholesale parts rep for Carnation Skoda.

When asked to write his own epitaph by the *Chron* in 2005, he simply wrote: "Once a Cobbler, always a Cobbler."

At the beginning of Monday's match against Lincoln City, a minute's silence was held for Mr Clarke and fellow Cobblers star Terry Branston, who played between 1958 and 1967 and died before Christmas.

John Clarke, inset, known as Nobby, played in the Cobblers match against Manchester United in 1970, above, in which George Best scored his infamous double hat-trick

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'Yes' to £4m build plan

A PUBLIC consultation on plans to spend £4 million extending two Northampton primary schools has received a positive response.

Northamptonshire County Council wants to expand Castle Primary School near the town centre and Upton Meadows Primary School on the town's south-west fringe to cope with the town's increasing birth rate.

It is proposed that £2.1 million be spent on building new classrooms at the Castle Primary site, increasing pupil capacity from 315 to 420, and £2.2 million at Upton, doubling the amount of school places from 210 to 420.

The annual birth rate in the town centre has increased by almost 100 in the past five years and one of the reasons that Castle Primary has been chosen by the county council for expansion is because it was rated "outstanding" by Ofsted after an inspection last year.

The extension of Upton Meadows will accommodate the 655 new houses that have recently been built at Upton.

A public consultation on the plans, which took place from November 1 until December 24, revealed just one response against the proposal because "it would make a small primary school into a big one, which would make it more impersonal".

The other 10 responses in relation to both the Upton and Castle Primary proposals were all in favour of the extension.

A report is due to be discussed at a meeting of the county council's cabinet next week.

It states: "On October 20, a pre-planning consultation evening was held at Upton Meadows for parents and local residents, who welcomed the new extension.

"A similar consultation event will be held at Castle Primary when initial plans have been developed; the headteacher, staff and governing body are working with the design team to identify the school's requirements."

Cabinet members are due to issue a statutory public notice of the proposed extensions next week which will be followed by a four-week period for any representations.

The final go-ahead on the plans is expected to be given at a Northamptonshire County Council cabinet meeting in March.

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Calendar's

A SAUCY calendar inspired by the hit film *Calendar Girls* has gone on sale in aid of the *Chronicle & Echo*'s charity campaign.

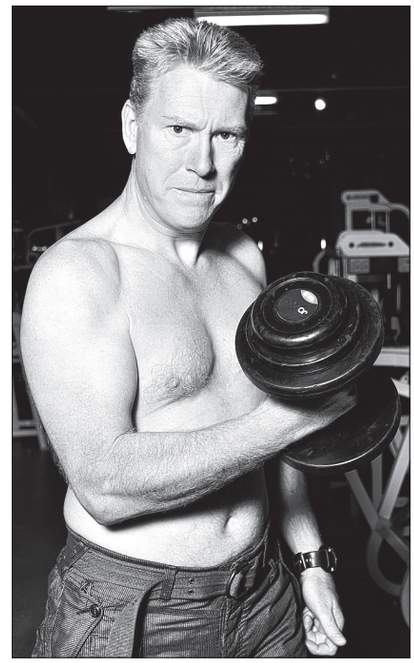
In July the *Chron* teamed up with Macmillan Cancer Support to launch an appeal to raise £1.55 million for a new cancer unit at Northampton General Hospital.

Work to build the new Macmillan Haematology Suite, which will treat patients with blood cancers like leukaemia, lymphoma and myeloma, is due to begin this month, and the new unit is scheduled to open by the end of November.

Northampton resident Gwynith Butlin was inspired to help the appeal by the work the hospital's existing haematology unit has done to treat and care for her husband Tony, aged 61, who has myeloma.

In September the 57-year-old held a charity day at her house in Kingsthorpe which raised £2,100. But her latest initiative is an altogether more risque affair.

She said: "When I was doing my fund-raising in September, an amateur photographer friend of mine said he had always wanted to do a charity calendar so we got some friends, family and other volunteers together and made a *Calendar Girls*-inspired one.



Some of the images from the calendar, devised by Gwynith Butlin

"We went to Top Notch gym in Sol Central one evening after hours and took the photos, which are of both men and women, aged between about 18 and about 55. Then a local company printed 100 copies for us for cost price, which was very good of them.

"We know it won't be everybody's cup of tea but it's for a good cause and we think the photos are funny."

The saucy images, in which some of the subjects' modesty is protected only by strategically-placed gym equipment, were the handiwork of photographer David Stokes, who runs Images Photography.

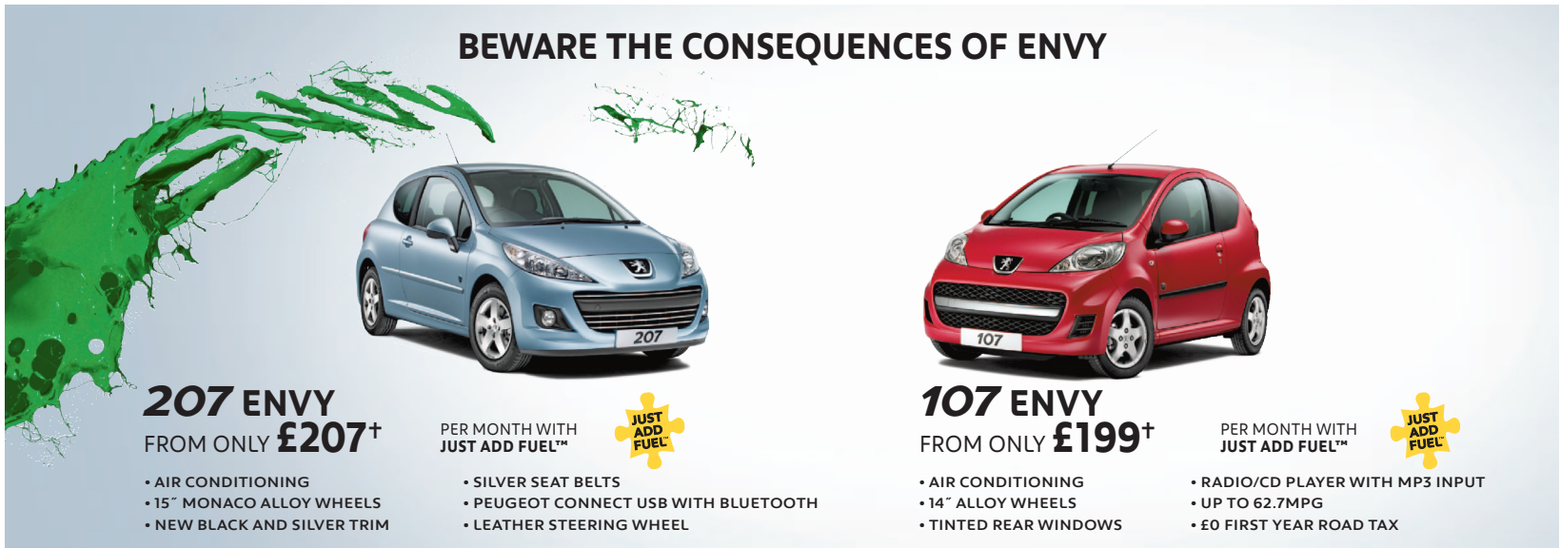
Mrs Butlin, who is herself a member of a photography club – some of whose members posed for the calendar – said: "My husband has been treated at the haematology unit for nearly seven years now and I wanted to do something to give something back.

"The staff there are wonderful and it's a bit sad really but it's almost become like a home from home.

"We just wanted to do our bit to help."

The calendars are on sale now, priced £7.50, £5 of which will go to the appeal and the remainder to cover costs.

Anyone who wants to buy one can call Mrs Butlin on Northampton 474158 or email gwynithb@yahoo.com or imagesphotos@hotmail.co.uk



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saucy snaps

Proceeds from the calendar will benefit the *Chronicle & Echo*'s charity appeal

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Cloudy2Clear Windows, the Northampton based window repair company, are revolutionising how homeowners view double glazing in our area. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as customers take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Trevor Skidmore, is convinced that much of his success is down to the fact that he employs tradesmen, not salesmen. 'If you think about it, who wants to deal with the dreaded double glazing salesman? The thought of going through the whole tedious process of haggling with someone who arrives at 7 at night and then camps themselves in your house until midnight is not one most people find attractive. A lot of our customers are elderly and can feel very pressurised by sales tactics. We set out from day one to be very different.'

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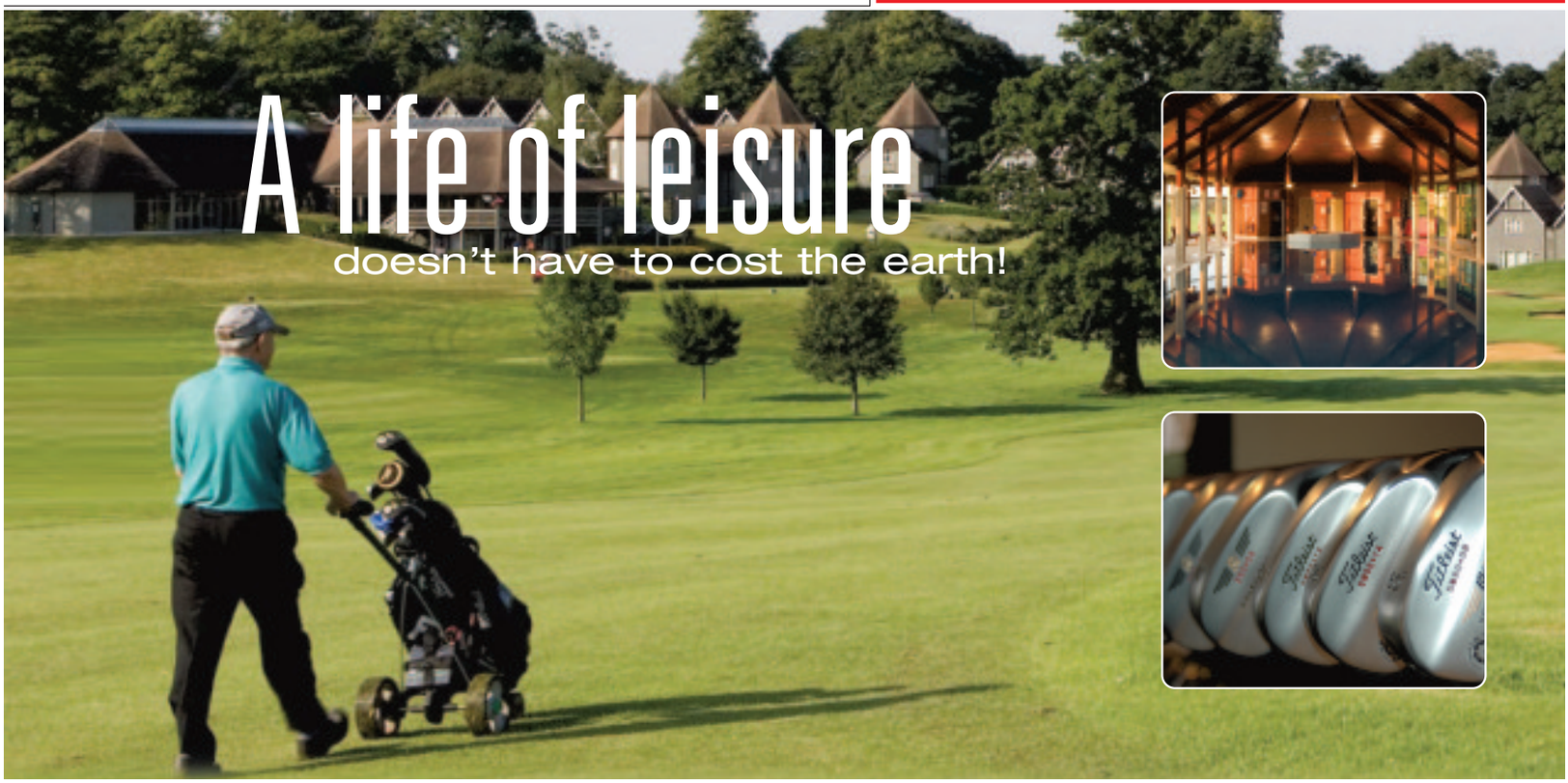

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Road toll is lowest ever

THE number of people killed on Northamptonshire's roads in 2010 was the lowest since records began, road safety officers have confirmed.

A total of 25 people died on the county's roads last year, down from 34 in 2009, the previous all-time low.

The figure is the lowest since records began more than 50 years ago in 1960, and reflects a downward trend in the figures that has seen road fatalities drop from 74 in 2006, to 57 in 2007 and 35 in 2008.

Speaking last week Brian Ronaghan, casualty reduction partnership manager at Northamptonshire Police, said: "Although we are currently still in the process of validating all the information, early indications show 25 people sadly lost their lives on Northamptonshire's roads during 2010.

"This is the lowest number of fatalities on our roads since official records began in 1960.

"But we must not forget that, although road safety has improved, there are still 25 families in the county who have just spent their first Christmas without the loved one they lost in 2010. Our thoughts are with each and every one of these families at this time."

Mr Ronaghan said he found Northamptonshire County Council's draft budget proposals including plans to disband the casualty reduction partnership "deeply worrying".

He said: "This proposed disinvestment can only be expected to have a detrimental effect on road safety within Northamptonshire. However, we are committed to make the best use of any remaining resources to attempt to further reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads during 2011."

Responding to the latest road death figures Sue Jackson, of road accident victims' charity RoadPeace, said she did not believe they reflected the true picture of road safety in the county.

She said: "RoadPeace's website is up-to-date with all the analysis of all the road deaths and serious injuries broken down into county by county statistics, and according to that these kinds of figures are not really going down.

"It could be the number of road deaths is going down but the number of injuries is going up."

Shoppers hit the sales

CROWDS of bargain-hunting shoppers helped make the first week of the January sales a bumper one for Northampton stores.

With the snow melted, thousands ventured out in the week between Christmas and New Year to take advantage of discounts of up to 70 per cent in some town centre shops.

Sheridan New, manager of the Grosvenor Centre shopping centre, said the sales had been "very strong" so far and the number of shoppers had remained fairly steady even on New Year's Eve.

He said: "We had more people in the centre in the early part of last week than in the same period last year. A number of retailers affected by the bad weather just before Christmas had probably bigger sales than they anticipated."

Mr New said he believed the thaw in the wintry weather, '70 per cent off' sales in some stores, and the impending VAT increase were attracting shoppers.

He said: "There are a couple of '70 per cent off' sales around the place, which is slightly more than last year. Last year we started at '50 per cent off'. I think that shows there are more bargains to be had."

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Lane is best place to live

A LEAFY Northamptonshire street has been named the top place to live in the Midlands.

Research carried out by Lloyds TSB has shown properties in Sandy Lane, Church Brampton, have an average value of £865,000.

The value puts the area above anywhere else in either the East or West Midlands and above Yorkshire's highest value street in Green Lane, Harrogate, where properties cost an average of £758,000.

The news has been warmly welcomed by many residents of Sandy Lane, which is near the prestigious Northamptonshire County Golf Club.

Retired chartered accountant, Brian May, is a member of Church with Chapel Brampton Parish Council and a resident of Sandy Lane.

He said: "I've lived here for 20 years. It was at the top of the market then and it's certainly a very nice place to live now.

"But I am a bit surprised it's come out as the top place to live in the Midlands as there are two houses for sale at the moment which have been on the market for quite a long time. If it was so desirable, you would think there would be people rushing to buy them."

A similar survey of national house prices which was carried out in 2007, saw properties in Sandy Lane reach an average of £707,100 meaning the average house price in the street has risen by £157,900 – or 22 per cent – in the past three years.

But despite the massive increase in the amount people are willing to pay for properties in Sandy Lane, the value of the homes is still nowhere near the top properties in the country.

Lloyd's TSB's research found the most expensive street in Britain was Parkside in South London, where the properties are worth an average of £5 million each.

More than half of the 20 most expensive streets in England and Wales were in Kensington and Chelsea and all but two were in Greater London.

Nitesh Patel, housing economist at Lloyds TSB, said: "Unsurprisingly, the most expensive residential streets are in London. Parkside is just a short walk to Wimbledon's All England club. The prime, central London location continues to attract affluent celebrities and ultra wealthy foreign businessmen, helping to drive up house prices.

Closer to home, the most expensive street in the East Anglia region was Sedley Taylor Road, in Cambridge, where the average house costs £1.1 million.

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Police mottos are 'a waste of time'

POLICE forces, including Northamptonshire, should save words and money by ditching "pointless" marketing slogans, according to a group which campaigns for public bodies to improve their use of English.

The Plain English Campaign (PEC) said no-one needs to be told that police are "protecting our communities by reducing crime and anti-social behaviour", "keeping our communities safe and reassured" or "serving our communities, protecting them from harm".

The group says the police service has nothing to sell and the word "police" tells people all they need to know.

Most forces attach slogans to their names on websites and some add slogans to vehicles.

Northamptonshire Police came under fire for its slogan "Putting Communities First".

A PEC spokesman said: "We know that police forces already have more than enough paperwork to deal with so let's see an end to these pointless slogans.

Store urged to stay

RETAIL giant Sainsbury's should be encouraged to maintain its presence in the Grosvenor Centre, despite the firm having plans to expand its store near Sixfields, officials from Northampton Borough Council say.

The supermarket first revealed plans to expand the Weedon Road store in 2009.

But in documents about the plans which will be seen by members of Northampton Borough Council's planning committee next week, Guildhall officials have said the importance of also maintaining a town centre presence should be put across to Sainsbury's and that officials from the West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (WNDC) should "seek methods to maintain their presence in the town".

As part of its discussions for the Sixfields expansion, Sainsbury's has already said it will enter an agreement to stay in the town centre, a move which has been welcomed by the council.

Council planning officer Richard Boyt, said: "Sainsbury's commitment to the town centre store is important for the vitality of the town as it maintains a mix of shopping types in the central area and prevents town centre users going out of town for food shopping, particularly for top-up shopping.

"Sainsbury's commitment to this and then to potential town centre growth as part of a redeveloped Grosvenor Centre, is welcomed."

The 2009 plan for the expansion of the Sixfields store would have seen a 49,987-square-foot extension built.

But following negotiations with planning officials, the size of the proposed extension has now been reduced to 26,791-square-feet.

The development would however still include the creation of a new floor above the current supermarket, which shoppers would access by an escalator, and a new "deck" car park.

But despite the creation of the new level of car parking, the overall number of parking spaces at the supermarket would actually be reduced from 558 to 514.

A final decision on whether the Sixfields scheme can go ahead will be made by members of the WNDC.

Busy New Year for officers

POLICE in Northampton had a busy New Year's period, with officers responding to incidents ranging from minor assaults and anti-social behaviour to reports of rape.

The force's control room took 1,100 calls in the first half of New Year's Day from midnight, and officers had to open extra cells in the county to deal with the number of people arrested for alcohol-related incidents.

Insp Carl Sturman said it had been a challenging 12 hours for the force. He said: "It has been a pretty busy day.

"We had quite a bit of serious crime during the night, including at least five incidents of assaults occasioning grievous bodily harm, a couple of reported rapes and numerous anti-social behaviour and lower level assaults. We've managed it all but it's not been easy."

As well as responding to incidents in the town centre, officers teamed up with colleagues from Thames Valley Police to thwart an illegal rave planned for New Year's Eve.

Officers stopped two vehicles travelling on the A5 between Towcester and Milton Keynes and seized music equipment that was heading for an unknown location, potentially in the county.

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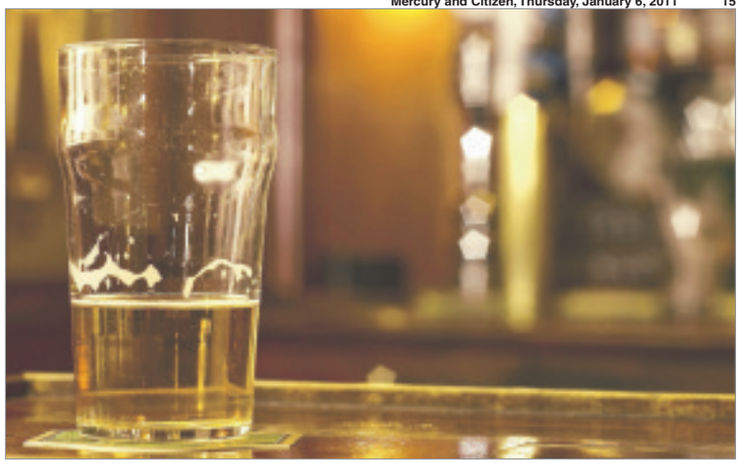
Pub woes as price of a pint hits £3



DRINKERS will be hit with a "double whammy" of tax increases which will see the average price of a pint rise above £3 for the first time and put the future of many pubs in doubt, according to industry experts.

This week's VAT hike, coupled with the 26 per cent rise in Beer Tax seen during the past two years, means New Year misery for pubgoers, who now face paying more for their pint.

Karl Tecklenberg, secretary of the Northamptonshire branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), said: "We have about 500 pubs in the country and around a dozen have closed in the past year.

"That is only going to get worse.

"The tax rises will see about 20p put on the price of a pint. January and February is always a bad time for the pub industry as it is, but this is going to be very bad news.

"The discerning drinker will still go out as they like to socialise over a pint but a lot of people, who just go to the pub, will stay at home instead with a can of 25p fizzy lager they bought from the supermarket.

"More needs to be done to stop the massive differential in price between the pubs and the supermarkets."

The British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA) said the increases were placing "shackles" on the pub and hospitality sector at a time when it could be creating jobs, and it urged the Government to abandon plans for further Beer Tax increases.

The group said the tax increase would hit pubs, in which beer is the key seller, more than other retailers, as many are small, family-run businesses, which are less able to absorb the cost than big supermarkets.

BBPA chief executive Brigid Simmonds said: "The Treasury is piling tax on top of tax.

"The Government has recognised that tax increases harm pubs and wants policies that don't damage the sector. Now is the time to translate this wish into action, with policies that keep pubs open, and create jobs and wealth in the UK economy."

MP for Northampton South Brian Binley, vice-chairman of the parliamentary Save Our Pubs group, said: "This concerns me. It is yet another nail in the coffin for our pubs. Pubs play a vital role in our social interaction at a local level.

"I don't think a tax rise is the right way to go when there is so much waste in Government that could be cut."

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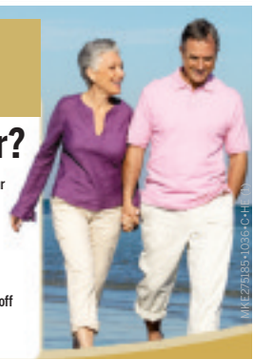

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'Kids miss out' in Cadet unit raid

THE Northampton Air Cadet unit has suffered a "heartbreaking" start to the new year after more than £3,500 of electrical equipment was stolen from its premises.

Thieves forced their way into the home of the 5F (Northampton) Squadron, Air Training Corps, which is based in the grounds of the Northampton TA Centre, in Clare Street, through a fire door in the early hours of Sunday.

Items stolen included four computers, two printers, a laptop computer, a photocopier as well as hundreds of pounds of software.

Flight Lieutenant Carol Haynes said the theft of the computers meant the unit would not be able to carry out all its usual activities in the next few months.

She said: "We have 76 cadets and run an internal Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme. We log all the records on the computers and, without them, we won't be able to run the awards programme.

"We never expected this to happen on a Ministry of Defence site. I can't believe people had the gall to come in and do something like this to a cadet unit.

"It is not like we are the Army, the cadets are kids. It is heartbreaking because the only people who are going to miss out are them."

Ms Haynes said the unit was not insured for the loss of the equipment so it would have to be replaced from donations or from fund-raising.

She said: "People have worked so hard to raise money for the squadron and for this to happen is a real pain.

"We've got a great bunch of cadets and staff here and they deserve everything because they work hard for it."

The Northampton Air Cadet unit is one of the oldest in the country and regularly takes part in military parades in the town and helps out at charity events in the county.

The 5F Squadron band currently has more than 20 members who meet every Wednesday to prepare for competitions and displays at events such as the Hollowell Steam Rally.

If you would like to make a donation to the air cadet unit or if you have any unused computer equipment, call Northampton 233157. Anyone with any information about the burglary can call Northamptonshire Police on 03000 111 222 or information can be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Alan Bull and Carol Haynes assess the situation at the air cadets' offices

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The Home Improvement Partnership includes the use of well known and respected local brand names Homesure, The Door Studio, Simply Conservatories, Online Window Quotes, Denverglaze and the latest addition MK Glass, which provides replacement sealed units to fit into existing frames. This offers customers all the benefits of energy efficient glazing at a fraction of the cost of full replacement and ending the nightmare of misty, clouded and unattractive sealed units.

Additional floor space has been acquired to extend the showroom over two floors at Wharfside in Fenny Stratford.

John Connolly (pictured right) with General Manager Dave Connell proudly displaying the company's Pilkington EnergiKare certificate.

Dave said " I have found that most of our customers are looking for the best possible products in terms of energy efficiency at the moment. Saving money on fuel bills and reducing energy consumption is definitely a priority. I am convinced that we are able to offer the widest possible range of home improvement products that give our customers the very highest quality at simply unbeatable prices. I welcome customers personally to visit the new showroom and see for themselves the extensive range of doors, windows and home improvements we have to offer. The showroom is open 7 days a week to make sure that there is always a convenient time for our customers to visit us, and I am always pleased to discuss a customer's exact requirements and offer my experience and advice as well as giving an immediate quotation. Another unique service that many customers find useful, is our instant online quotation website. It can be used to compare any quotation a customer may already have, or to get an accurate price on new windows and doors, it is easy to use! I feel we offer by far the most comprehensive range of products in the region and am convinced that our transparent pricing policy gives customers excellent value and complete peace of mind"

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Arts & Entertainment

A new year, new comedy

JANUARY is the glummest month. Christmas has been and gone (but is possibly still being paid for), the weather can still be unrelentingly cold and the sky blackens about 4pm. So it's good that with the new year comes a whole host of new television programmes to fill the chilly, dark and poor months until spring. All our channels are promising a range of shows to get us glued; these are some of TV View's top tips.

Viewers of American drama will be tuning into Sky Atlantic, the new channel from the satellite provider which launches early this year. Much fanfare has already been made of the channel, which bought the rights to the next season of Mad Men from the BBC and will be a home to the kind of US imports so beloved of TV View.

It gives a home to the programmes made by acclaimed US channel HBO, who brought us The Wire, Six Feet Under and Sex and the City. TV View is warming up the box already in anticipation of Martin Scorsese's Boardwalk Empire, set in prohibition-era New Jersey and Treme, set in post-Katrina New Orleans and penned by the creator of The Wire.

The channel launches early in the new year and Boardwalk Empire starts in February, with Treme following two months later.

A wealth of new drama is also heading to the BBC, with Matt Smith starring in Christopher And His Kind, pictured, about the life of writer Christopher Isherwood. BBC Two will also screen a four-part adaptation of Michel Faber's novel The Crimson Petal And The White.

BBC One is the home of Human Planet, a new series three years in the making which travels to far-flung corners of the globe to bring stories of human endeavour to BBC One.

More than 70 locations were visited to explore the ways humans have adapted to life in every habitat on earth, the only animal to do so.

Over on ITV, the new series of Dancing On Ice starts next week, while both Britain's Got Talent and The X Factor will also return to the broadcaster this year.

Meanwhile, Channel 4's new shows include a full series of Campus, set at a university and written by the team behind Green Wing. A six-part comedy drama series called Naked Apes, which focuses on a team of paramedics, has also been commissioned by Channel 4 and will screen this year, while E4 will screen Beaver Falls, a series about a group of friends who have graduated and who, determined to have fun, sign up to work at a camp in America.

With a wealth of old favourites returning to our screens over the next 12 months across all genres, for telly addicts 2011 is going to shape up very well indeed.

For more leisure, see pages 20 - 23

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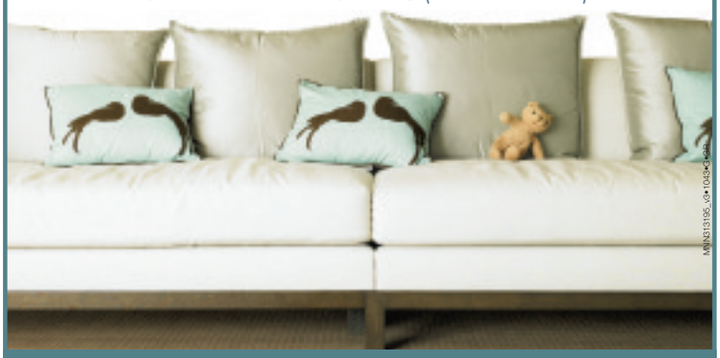

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Theatre

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Their adventures in Narnia seem the meeting a varity of wonderful creatures including Mr Tumnus the fawn and Mr and Mrs Beaver.
For more than half a century The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe has been delighting children and a recent cinema version won it another generation of fans. Now it is the Christmas show at Royal & Derngate, in an adaptation by Theresa Heskins and under the direction of Dani Parr.
The show takes place until Sunday, January 9.
For more information on performances times and tickets prices, or to book, call the box office on 01604 624811 or visit www.royalandderngate.co.uk.

Classic panto to open tomorrow

A CLASSIC pantomime will be coming to the stage in the new year.
Aladdin will be performed at Rugby Theatre from Friday, January 7 to Sunday, January 16. Tickets cost between £6.50 and £9.50 and can be bought by calling 01788 541234.

Fee fi fo fun at pantomime

AUDIENCE members can continue to shout "he's behind you" as pantomime continues in Northampton until later in the New Year.
Starring Ray Quinn, Jack and the Beanstalk takes place at Royal & Derngate until January 9, featuring music, dancing, scenery... And a beanstalk with an angry giant at the top.
Also starring with Ray are Emma Stephens, who plays the Princess, Hilary O'Neil as the good fairy and Nick Weir, who plays Simple Simon and is best known for his work as a host on Catchphrase.
The show is produced by Qdos Entertainment, the world's biggest pantomime company.
Quinn shot to fame in 2007 after coming second in The X Factor, then going on to win Dancing On Ice and recording an album. He has recently appeared in the West End in Dirty Dancing and is taking a break from the role to appear in panto.
It takes place until Sunday, January 9.
To book tickets, call 01604 624811 or www.royalandderngate.co.uk.

Stars still shine

GAVIN and Stacey's Joanna Page and Stavros Flatley are two of the attractions in Dick Whittington, the pantomime at Milton Keynes Theatre. Hollywood legend Dirk Benedict also stars in the show as King Rat, while Page plays Alice, the love interest of the title character.

In the show, Dick Whittington and his trusted feline companion depart on a fun-filled quest for fame and fortune, setting out to see if the streets are paved with gold.

Plenty of audience participation is promised, along with music, dancing and laughter, as Dick sets out to defeat King Rat and win the hand of the lovely Alice in the rags to riches classic.

The show runs until January 16. For more information or to book, call the box office 0844 871 7652 or visit www.ambassadortickets.com.

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Cinema

Also released . . .

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS (PG)
Lemuel Gulliver (Jack Black) works in the post room of a New York newspaper, where he pines for travel editor Darcy Silverman (Amanda Peet) from afar. In order to impress the object of his affections, Gulliver blags a travel assignment to the Bermuda Triangle. Heading out to sea on his boat Notfersail, Gulliver is swept into a massive, swirling column of water and when he regains consciousness, he discovers that he is a giant in the land of Lilliput. Feared at first by the tiny inhabitants, Gulliver ingratiates himself to King Theodore (Billy Connolly), Queen Isabelle (Catherine Tate) and their daughter Princess Mary (Emily Blunt).
Rating: Three stars

MEET THE PARENTS: LITTLE FOCKERS (12A)
Hapless male nurse Gaylord "Greg" Focker (Ben Stiller) is blissfully in love with his wife Pam (Teri Polo) and his twins, Samantha (Daisy Tahan) and Henry (Colin Baiocchi). The feisty daughter is giving her father the silent treatment while the boy is becoming fussy about his food. It's hassle that Greg could do without as he considers a lucrative job offer from pretty drugs rep Andi Garcia (Jessica Alba) and debates sending the little ones to the prestigious Early Human School, run by inspirational headmistress Prudence (Laura Dern). Meanwhile, Pam's father, retired CIA operative Jack Byrnes (Robert De Niro), continues to view Greg with suspicion and isn't sure that his son-in-law is made of the right material to lead the Byrne clan.
Rating: Two stars (out of five)

ANIMALS UNITED (U)
In the Okavango Delta, the local wildlife waits patiently every year for the waters which nourish the valley. When the deluge fails to materialise, Billy the forgetful meerkat (James Corden) and his best friend Socrates the lion (Stephen Fry) embark on an epic quest to find water and prove to Billy's son Junior (Mischa Goodman) that his old man is just as valiant as the larger animals on the plain. En route, Billy and Socrates befriend the exiles from other continents and together they search for the source of the water.
Rating: Three stars

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Swearing	✖	Violence	✔
Sex	✖	**Rating**	5/10

ARTHUR AND THE GREAT ADVENTURE (PG, 107 mins) Family/Action/Comedy. Freddie Highmore, Robert Stanton, Penny Balfour, Mia Farrow, Ronald Crawford, and the voices of Selena Gomez, Lou Reed, Jimmy Fallon, Stacy Ferguson, Snoop Dogg, Will.i.am, Iggy Pop. Director: Luc Besson.

RELEASED more than a year ago in most of the rest of Europe, the sequel to the 2006 fantasy Arthur And The Invisibles (aka Arthur Et Les Minimoys) fails to live up to the superlative in its title.

Indeed, Arthur And The Dull Adventure might be more apt but such candour would hardly draw in family audiences this festive season, who are desperate for PG-friendly action and excitement.

Some of the cast have changed between the two films.

Arthur's father is now played with wide-eyed nervousness by Robert Stanton, while the voice cast have lost Madonna as Princess Selenia, replaced here by teen idol Selena Gomez.

When is a film so bad on the page that Madonna refuses to act in it, the alarm bells should ring loud and clear.

Writer and director Luc Besson welds a rip-off of Toy Story with a B-movie about giant flying insects running amok through a backwater American town, and throws in some saccharine family bonding and romance with all of the usual messages about cherishing the world around us.

As one of the two-dimensional characters in the film coos: "Our mother is Nature".

Arthur (Freddie Highmore) is staying with his grandmother (Mia Farrow) and eagerly awaits the end of the moon's tenth cycle and his return to the Minimoy village.

Consequently, he will be able to venture back to his beloved princess Selenia.

However, Arthur's parents (Robert Stanton, Penny Balfour) throw a spanner in the works by cutting short their stay.

Poised to leave, Arthur is shocked when a spider deposits a grain of rice in his hand engraved with a plea for help.

Fearing that Selenia and her little brother Betameche (Jimmy Fallon) are in peril, the lad hastily improvises a passage back to the Minimoys where he joins forces with bar owner Max (Snoop Dogg) and his pickpocket cousin Replay (Stacy Ferguson) to locate Selenia.

Rats and frogs stand between Arthur and the Minimoy village but when Arthur finally arrives at his destination, there is a nasty shock in store: Malthazar (Lou Reed).

Now Arthur, Selenia and Betameche will have to muster all of their courage to save Arthur's family from a terrible fate and to stay one step ahead of Malthazar's son, Darkos (Iggy Pop).

Arthur And The Great Adventure plods from the start and barely moves into second gear when the action changes from live action to computer animation.

Highmore loses all emotion when he is reduced to a mere voice, matching lacklustre performances from his co-stars.

Action sequences are brief and the detail in the visuals is lacking next to recent Hollywood films.

A DVD replay of Toy Story 3 or How To Train Your Dragon are far 'greater' adventures than anything Besson can muster here.

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Thursday, January 6, 2011

Mazda 6 Estate 2.5 Sport

Review by Ian Donaldson

Six appeal to petrolheads

CAR: Mazda 6 Estate 2.5 Sport
PRICE: £22,673
DRIVETRAIN: 2.5 litre 168bhp petrol engine, 6-speed gearbox
PERFORMANCE: Top speed 135mph 0-62mph 8.4 seconds
ECONOMY: Euro average 34.9mpg
CO2: 188g/km road tax £425 first year, then £235
SIZE: 4785mm long 1795mm wide
SAFETY: EuroNCAP 5 stars
INSURANCE: Group 26 (of 50)
WARRANTY: Three years or 60,000 miles

THE particular version of Mazda's handsome estate car tested here today is an endangered species; almost one of a kind.

For under its shapely bonnet is a engine powered by petrol and large enough in capacity to ensure it will appeal to a very limited number of buyers.

Most people who put their hard-earned down for a Mazda 6 Estate will want a diesel engine doing the work, and a glance at the important figures shows why.

For a modest £1,149 more than the test car you can have a version powered by diesel that's just as well equipped, performs as well and uses a lot less fuel. It's also likely to be worth more when you sell it (or your lease company does).

So why would Mazda even bother building a car that it knows won't sell enough to pay for the annual office outing?

For an answer you need to raise your horizons and look east and west several thousand miles.

Looking west, you'll discover this very model is described by the Mazda people in the USA as the 'economy' pick of the range, where a much thirstier engine, not even whispered about here, is the one for the enthusiast driver.

Same story in the car's native Japan, which like the States, much prefers petrol to diesel.

So the car is already built with a petrol option and it costs Mazda very little to offer UK drivers the (rare) chance of enjoying one themselves. After a week at the wheel it's easy to make a case for this generous hearted estate, if you don't mind the running costs.

But first, the bits shared by whatever version you plump for in a car good enough to collect estate of the year titles from the experts in the car leasing trade.

They all liked the Mazda 6 Estate's carrying capacity and the easy way the rear seats fold to add to luggage space. The same experts praised the car's specification (with the Sport at the top of the tree), thought it was well made and agreed diesel models would hold their value pretty well.

Note the diesel reference; this petrol model won't be nearly as clinging to its value, especially as the poshest versions of non-prestige brands are usually the worst performers in the retained value stakes.

No denying though that you get a lot for your money with this Sport model, from part leather trim and heated seats to xenon headlights, a fine Bose sound system and keyless entry with a starting button (leave the key in your pocket).

The diesel powered Sport has all that too, along with lower road tax and a lighter thirst. It's also punchy enough on the road to satisfy most drivers.

But try as hard as they can (and boy, do they try) engineers simply cannot yet make a diesel as smooth and responsive as a good petrol engine.

The creamy power of the petrol motor in this big Mazda made it a delightful long distance companion, even if we would have arrived at our destination as swiftly in the diesel, and less out of pocket.

For the fortunate few, who have someone to pay the fuel bill, this Mazda hits the spot.

Comparison car

CAR: Vauxhall Insignia Sports Tourer SRi 1.8i
PRICE: £22,705
DRIVETRAIN: 1.8 litre 138bhp petrol engine, 6-speed gearbox
PERFORMANCE: Top speed 126mph 0-62mph 11.6 seconds
ECONOMY: Euro average 36.2mpg
CO2: 184g/km £300 first year, then £200
SIZE: 4908mm long 1856mm wide
SAFETY: EuroNCAP 5 stars
INSURANCE: Group 16 (of 50)
WARRANTY: Unlimited years, up to 100,000 miles with first owner

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52 RENAULT MEGANE COUPE RIDJI 1.6 16 VALVE silver, PAS, e/w, alloys, etc £1695
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1998 £400

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99 T	**Mercedes A Class 1.4 Clutchless Automatic** Garden Green 87,000 miles FSH	£1995
99 T	**Ford KA** Metallic Gunmetal Grey Low Tax and Insurance 60,000 miles	£1695
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Audi A8 quattro

4.2, Saloon, 4 door, 139,000 miles, Silver, Petrol, 2004, 54 reg, Immaculate Condition Tax until 28/Feb/11 M.O.T until 29/sept/11 Full Service History. £7,500 ono **Tel: 07777682319**

2004 £7,500 ono

BMW

BMW 3 Series 318Ci Coupe

2002, 1.9, 2 door, blue, Petrol, 02 reg, f/s/h, half leather, +much much more, MoT May 2011, Tax April 2011. £3195 **Tel.07787415333 01933 273046**

2002 £3195

BMW 3 Series 316i SE

1.8, Saloon, 4 door, 52k miles, Petrol, abs, a/b, a/c, alarm, alloys, auto, cd, c/l, c/c, e/w, f/s/h, h/f/w, immobiliser, long MOT & Tax,VGC, 2 owner vehicle, recent service. Tel: 07860286814

2002 £5250

Citroen

Citroen C3 LX Automatic

1.4, Hatchback, 5 door, 49,000 miles, Met Black, Petrol, 2003, abs, a/b, a/c, alarm, cd, remote c/l, e/m, e/w, h/f/w, fogs, c coded, immobiliser, p/a/s, spoiler, stereo, 1 former keeper. 12 months MoT, 6 months Tax. Tel: 07930 207528

2003 £2675 ono

Citroen Saxo First

1.1, Hatchback, 3 door, 68,000 miles, white, Petrol, 2001, Y reg, a/b, alloys, Long MoT & tax, p/a/s, stereo, Low insurance excellent MPG Ideal first car. £995 ono Tel: 07549 026301

2001 £995 ono

Citroen Saxo Desire

1.1, 77,000 miles, blue, Petrol, 2001, 51 reg, c/l, f/s/r, November 2011, spot lights, good con. £850 Tel: 07788533505

2001 £850

Citroen Xsara Picasso SX

1.8, MPV, 5 door, Metallic Green, Petrol, 2001, 51 reg, c/l, immobiliser, p/a/s, 6 months Tax, MoT tested. £1075 ono Tel: 07970 544273

2001 £1075 ono

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Daewoo

Daewoo Matiz SE

0.8, 51,221 miles, Blue, Petrol, 2000, W reg, a/b, cd, MOT 2011, p/a/s, tax till Dec £750 ono Tel: 01536 261336 or 07757374395

2000 £695

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Fiat

Fiat Punto SX60

1.2, Hatchback, 3 door, black, Petrol, 2000, V reg, p/a/s, service history, 6 months tax, MoT May 2011, clean condition. £795 ono Tel: 07806 423044

2000 £795 ono

Fiat Punto 60 SX 1.2 Hatchback

1998, S reg, 3 dr, 70,000 miles, white, full MoT, alloys, tax end December, central locking, electric front windows, radio /cd player, vgc for year. £750 ono 01933 386284

1998 £750 ono

Fiat Punto 55 S

1.1, Hatchback, 5 door, Petrol, 1996, N reg, MOT, p/a/s, f/s/r, Ideal First Car. Tel: 07860286814

1996 £595 ono

Fiat Punto 16v ELX 1.2, Hatchback, 5 door, 57000 miles, Blue, Petrol, 2000, W reg, MOT-march, Tax-Sep. £1,200 ono Tel: 01858446989

2000 £1,200 ono

Ford

Ford Fiesta

1.25 hatchback, 5 door, 40,000 miles, Metallic pale green, Petrol, 2000, W reg, full MoT, p/a/s, 6 months tax, immaculate condition throughout. First to see will buy. £950 ono Tel: 07903 378005

2000 £950 ono

Ford Fiesta Zetec

1.2, 5 door, Hatchback, 95,000 miles, green, Petrol, 2000, W reg, full Mot, Tax till March 2011, c/l, very reliable car. £950 ono Tel: 01933 316593

2000 £950 ono

Ford Ka

1.3, 79,000 miles, Black, Petrol, 2003, 03 reg, cd, p/a/s, Service history, 6 Months Tax and MoT tested, . £1275 ono Tel: 07952 682534 2003 £1275 ono

Ford

Ford Fiesta Encore 1.8D, 99899 miles, red, Diesel, 1998, S reg, MOT sept 2011 Tax March 2011. £550 Tel: 01933 665601

1998 £550

Ford Fiesta Encore 1.3, Hatchback, 3 door, 65K miles, White, Petrol, 1998, R reg, MOT sept 2011. £500 Tel: 07789912636

1998 £500

Ford Fiesta Freestyle 1.25

Hatchback, 3 door, 2002, 51 reg, alloys, CD player, FSH, 3 previous owners, maroon colour, 65000 miles, MoT Aug 2011. SOLD SOLD SOLD

2002

FORD KA 1.3

46,000 miles, Petrol, 2004, 53 reg, Service History, p/a/s, blue metallic, Mot til May 2011, immaculate throughout. £1895 (P) **Tel: 01536 725472**

2004 £1895

Ford Ka 1.3, Hatchback, 3 door, 58,000 miles, vitro green, Petrol, 2004, 04 reg, CD/MP3, one owner, fsh, MOT & tax. £1,600 ono Tel: 01536 310575

2004 £1,600 ono

Ford Mondeo 1.8 GLX - Zetec

2000, 5 dr, full MoT, 124k, new cam belt, black, a/b, a/c, cd, c/l, e/m/w, PAS, immobiliser alloys history. Very good condition. £750 ono 07973 839969 07770 764373

2000 £750 ono

Ford Ka Style 1.3, Hatchback, 3 door, 56000 miles, Metallic Black, Petrol, 2003, 03 reg, CD Player. £1,295 ono Tel: 01604 455201

2003 £1,295 ono

Ford Mondeo Ghia

2.0, Hatchback, 5 door, Red Maroon, Diesel, 2003, 53 reg, f/s/h, 12 Months MoT, Taxed, New tyres, Good condition. £1,800: 01604 702413 or 07736454129

2003 £1,800

Hyundai

Hyundai Amica GSi

1.0, Hatchback, 5 door, 13400 miles, Yellow, Petrol, 2007, 57 reg, Warranty Dec 2012, Body Coloured Bumpers, Radio/CD, Central Locking, Drivers Airbag, Electric Front Windows, Folding Rear Seats, Full Service History, Immobiliser, Power Steering. £3,300 **Tel: 07534 944184**

2007 £3,300

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Land Rover

Land Rover Freelander Td4 ES

2.0TD, Hard Top, 3 door, 84,000 miles, Blue, Diesel, 2002, 02 reg, 12 Months MoT, No Tax, Leather Tel: 01604 645564 after 5 or 07837387928

2002 £3500 ono

Land Rover Freelander

50th Ltd Edn. 1999 V Reg 1999cc, 100K miles, Metallic 2 tone Green, a/c, cd, leather interior MoT & Tax March 2011. Only 2 Owners. £2750 ono Tel: 07971 808486

1999 £2750 ono

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motorstoday.co.uk

Mazda

Mazda MX-5 Euphonic

1.8, Convertible, 2 door, 25,100 miles, grey, Petrol, 2004, 04 reg, .hardtop/soft top,red/black leather heated seats, heated electric mirrors/rear screen,cd auto changer,service history 12mths mot/tax march ex condition view it and you will want to buy it.. £5,250 ono **Tel: 07947200767**

2004 £5,250 ono

Mazda 6 TS

2.0, 2006 56 reg, 104k, Met Blue, Diesel, 2006, 56 reg, Taxed, Full 12 months MOT, pas, abs, e/w, e/m, New Discs and Brake Pads, Full Service History, Very reliable car, great drive, Company Car forces Sale. . £3995 01604 587117 / 07824 813269

2006 £3995

Mazda Mazda6 TS 2.0TD, Hatchback, 5 door, 115000 miles, Diesel, 2004, 54 reg, TAX and MOT end Jan 11, FSH. £2,200 Tel: 07515148525

2004 £2,200

Mercedes

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Cabriolet, W reg, hard and soft top, blue metallic, 36K, Taxed & MoT'd. Fully loaded. Excellent Condition. £11,000 offers welcome **Tel: 07885 580178**

£11,000 offers welcome 2000

Mercedes-Benz S-Class S430

4.3, Saloon, 4 door, 118000 miles, Silver, Petrol, 2001, Y reg, Ex Condition,6mths mot,9mths tax,recent service,tyres,new b/pads/discs,all leather and electric seats,self close doors and boot.phone,TV/satnav,tiptronic.. £7,500 **Tel: 07799140097**

2001 £7,500

MG

MG ZT +

1.8, Saloon, 4 door, Blue, Petrol, 2004, 04 reg, abs, a/b, a/c, alarm, alloys, c/l, e/m, e/w, f/s/h, h/f/w, immobiliser, p/a/s, spoiler, f/s/r, 12 months MoT, 6 months Tax. £1795 ono Tel: 07952682534

2004 £1795 ono

Mini

MINI Cooper

Metallic silver grey with black roof ,2004, roughly 40k miles, Personalised number plate, one lady owner, careful driver, in very good condition inside and out. Tel: 01604 758891 or 01604 756500

2004 £6,500 ono

Mitsubishi

Mitsubishi Carisma GDI Auto

1.8, Hatchback, 5 door, blue, Petrol, 1999, T reg, abs, a/c, alloys, cd, c/l, f/s/r, 2 keys, last owner for 8 years, MoT and tax end June 2011, genuine motor vehicle. £1195 ovno Tel: 07950909697

1999 £1195 ovno

Nissan

Nissan Micra SX 1.2, Hatchback, 3 dr, 75500 miles, SILVER, Petrol, 2003, 03 reg, Keyless,FHS,AC. £2,500 ono Tel: 07910550562(eve)

2003 £2,500 ono

Peugeot

Peugeot 206 LX Automatic

1.4, 3 door, hatchback, 43,500 miles, green, petrol, 53 reg, power steering, air con, radio/CD, central locking, electric front windows, space saver spare wheel, body coloured bumpers, good condition, MOT until 23.5.11 **Tel: 07792 057179 or 01604 769153**

2003 £2,495 ono

Peugeot 206 Zest

1.4, Hatchback, 3 door, 58500 miles, Black, Petrol, 54 reg, one owner, new brake pads/discs, battery & Cd player, good condition, f/s/h, MOT till Nov 11, Tax untill Apr 11. £2350 ono **Tel: 01858 465828 or 07989857349**

2004 £2350 ono

Peugeot 307 SW SE

2.0TD, 2003, 53 reg, Black. One local owner. Panoramic roof. 16" alloys. Climate control. All electric windows, 5 disc CD player. MOT June 11. 119k miles. Peugeot serviced to 96k. Drives superbly. Company car forces sale.. Only £2,295 **Tel: 07775 588587**

2003 Only £2,295

Peugeot 206 S 1.4, 36000 miles, Petrol, 2004, 54 reg, ex cond, AC, CD remote control, remote locking, elec windows. £3,200 ono Tel: 01933 311411

2004 £3,200 ono

Peugeot 306

Mardi Gras 1.4, Hatchback, 5 door, Red, Petrol, 1994, M reg, 12 months MoT, good condition £550 Tel: 07764188136

1994 £550

Opel

Opel Zafira Elegance

1.8, 16V, 2001, Y reg, 133,000 miles, silver, recent new clutch, MOT July 2011, Tax end of March 2011. SOLD

2001 SOLD

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Peugeot

Peugeot 206 LX

1.4, Hatchback, 3 door, Grey, 1999, T reg, cd, e/w, 6 months MoT taxed till end March 2011. New Tyres and Exhaust. £650 ono 07719940146

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1999 £650 ono

Peugeot 206

1999, V reg, alloys, 5 months MoT, body work needs attention hence price £575 ono Tel: 07869289636 From Saturday onwards

1999 £575 ono

Peugeot 206 GTi 2.0,51reg, 52k miles, blue/silv., Peugeot SH, blk/gry leath&suede int., all mod cons 12mths MOT ex.cond £1949ono 07583 750663

Peugeot 307 SW-SE-HDi

2.0TD, Estate, 5 door, Blue, Diesel, 2003, 03 reg, abs, a/b, a/c, alarm, alloys, c/l, e/m, e/w, f/s/h, h/f/w, immobiliser, p/a/s, f/s/r, 12 months Mot, Taxed untill 1st July 2011. £1695 ono Tel: 07952 352050 or 01604 499845

2003 £1695 ono

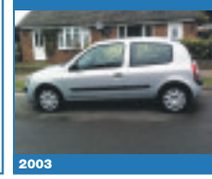
Peugeot 406 2.0, HDi S

Estate, 53 reg, silver, 2 owners, full peugeot history, 172,000 miles tax and Mot, all extras sat nav, air con, alloys, auto lights and wipers. looks and drives superb. £1,750 ono Tel: 01788 510606 07875628408

2003 £1,750 ono

Renault

Renault Clio Expression



1.2, Hatchback, 3 door, 60,000 miles, silver , Petrol, 2003, 53 reg, Mot till Jan 2012, Tax end of April, service history, p/a/s, electric windows, c/l. . £1995 **Tel: 01536 725472**

2003 £1995

Renault Clio Dynamique

1.2, 16v, 3 door Hatchback, 72,500 miles, black , Petrol, 2001, 51 reg, Mot & Tax Feb 2011, abs, air bag, e/w, alloy wheels, immobiliser, power steering, radio/cd, excellent condition. £1,650 ono **Tel: 01933 673982 07957784077**

2001 £1,650 ono

Renault Clio Sport

1.4, Petrol, 2000, X reg, 1.4 sport, 93k miles. Nice condition,great cheap to run 3door hatchback. Sun roof,elec windows,central locking,sports seats. MOT May Taxed April. £1,295 ono **Tel: 01604 750242**

2000 £1,295 ono

Renault Laguna

1.9dCi Privilege Sport Tourer. 2004. Diesel 47 MPG, dealer service history, cam belt & water pump changed, MoT Jan 2012, good tyres, sunroof, climate, rear parking aid, 6 CD changer, part leather interior, Xenon lights. 1 owner from new. £1950 ono **Tel: 01933 626126 or 07981 359258**

2004 £1950 ono

Renault Megane Dynamique

1.6, Hatchback, 5 door, 92500 miles, silver, Petrol, 2004, 53 reg, MOT Nov '11, Tax Apr '11, Panoramic sun roof, 6 CD player, 3x3 point rear seat belts, ABS. New Cam belt, Timer and shock absorbers.. £2,400 **Tel: 07906221150**

2004 £2,400

Renault Clio 1.2, Hatchback, 3 door, 120000 miles, blue, Petrol, 1998, S reg, . 12months mot taxed April 2011. £650 ono Tel: 07970745791

1998 £650 ono

Renault Megane Dynamique 1.6

Hatchback, 4 door, 54 plate, family owned from new, low mileage, black, history, keyless, new MoT, looks great inside and out. £2,850 Tel: 07903153774

54 plate £2850

Rover

Rover 214

1.6, Petrol, 1998, S reg, s/r, Good cond., New stereo, Cambelt & water pump, 9 Months MoT exc. runner. 1st to see will buy. £495 ono Tel: 07878 883844

1998 £495 ono

Rover

Rover 400 Turbo Diesel

1998, 4 dr saloon, pulsar silver, full MoT, new glow plugs, cam belt changed 110K, PAS, a/con, remote c/l, e/m, e/w, immobiliser, very clean & tidy, drives excellent. £595 ono Tel: 07973 839969 or 07770 764373

1998 £595 ono

Rover 420 SLDI

2.0, 100k miles, Diesel, 1996, N reg, white, cd, e/w, p/a/s, s/r, good condition & runner, MoT end July 2011. Tax end Jan 2011 £350 Tel: 07513 000294 07834233416

1996 £350

Rover 25 iE 1.4, Hatchback, 5 door, Black, Petrol, 2000, W reg, Taxed & Long MOT Careful owner Good condition. £550 Tel: 01933 623752

2000 £550

Saab

Saab 9-3 SE T

2.0, Convertible, 2 door, GREY, Petrol, 2001, 51 reg, Manual, 107,000 miles. Regularly maintained, service record. MOT Oct 11. All-season car - excellent heater, AC.. £2,250 **Tel: 01908 542713. mob: 0795 235 6240**

2001 £2,250

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Smart

Smart Fortwo Passion Coupe Mk.7

Hatchback, black, 04 reg, 25k miles, taxed til 3/11, MOT til 4/11, Ins Gp 1, 698cc petrol (50mpg), dual g/box, ABS, airbags, fogs, aircon, leather seats, alloys, excellent cond.. £3,450 ono **Tel: 01933 401123/07768 534201**

2004 £3,450 ono

Suzuki

Suzuki Baleno GLX

1.6, Saloon, 4 dr, Met Dark Green, 1996, P reg, abs, a/b, alloys, cd, c/l, e/m, f/s/h, MOT, p/a/s, spoiler, stereo, f/s/r, new gearbox, tyres, CV gaiters, windscreen, suspension arm. New gears/clutch, £200
Tel: 07830 658005

1996 £200

Suzuki Jimny JLX 1.3, 46600 miles, Silver, 2003, (03) Nice clean reliable low mileage car. Tax Aug11, MOT Sep11.. £2,500 Tel: 01604 740932

2003 £2,500

Toyota

Toyota EMINA 8 Seater

2.2, 5 door, blue, Diesel, 1996, N reg, a/c, auto, cd, c/l, e/m, e/w, p/a/s, 6 months tax and MoT, parking sensor, full spare keys . £1200 ono
Tel: 07588 425451
01604 603874
no canvassers

1996 £1200 ono

Toyota

Toyota Estima Auto

2.2, Diesel, 1996, N reg, Metallic green, a/c, e/w, twin sun/r, 8 seater, tow bar, MoT till Oct 2011. £975 ono (P)
Tel: 01604 499845
07952352050

1996 £975 ono

Toyota Previa GS

2.5, MPV, 4 door, 120,000 miles, Metallic Grey, Petrol, 1997, P reg, abs, a/b, a/c, alarm, alloys, auto, c/l, e/m, e/w, f/s/h, immobiliser, p/a/s, f/s/r, 8 seater, MoT tested, Taxed untill July 2011. £975 ono
Tel: 07952682534

1997 £975 ono

Vauxhall

Vauxhall Astra Turbo Edition 2.0, 72000 miles, black, Petrol, 2002, 02 reg, mot june 11, Tax dec 10.. £2,295 Tel: 07738900836

2002 £2,295

Vauxhall Astra LS 1.6, 71000 miles, 2003, 53 reg, 5dr e/w r/c/l a/c abs cd/mp3 sh full mot vgc. £1,995 Tel: 07708356744

2003 £1,995

Vauxhall Corsa

1.4, Automatic, 2 door, 68,000 miles, Red, Petrol, 1998, S reg, 12 Months MoT and 6 Months Tax, New car forces sale. £995 ono
Tel: 07802 331110

1998 £995 ono

Toyota

MGF 1.6 CONVERTIBLE

2 door, 36,700 miles, Solar Red, 2001, Y reg, abs, a/b, alarm, alloys, cd, e/w, p/a/s, MoT Feb 11, taxed November. Good condition inside and out. £3250 ono
01933 663730
07855 402648.

2001 £3250 ono

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www.motorstoday.co.uk

Vauxhall

Vauxhall Vectra SXi 2.2TD, Hatchback, 5 door, 74000 miles, Blue, Diesel, 2003, 53 reg, mot sept, tax may, towbar. £3,200 Tel: 01327831068

2003 £3,200

Vauxhall Zafira Comfort

2.0DTI, 5 door, Silver, 2002, 52 reg, 167,000, full service history, Tax Feb 2011, MoT Dec 2011 . £1500 ono
Tel: 07881911940

2002 £1500 ono

motorstoday
motorstoday.co.uk

Volkswagen

Volkswagen Golf

1.6, Hatchback, 4 door, 103,000 miles, Metallic Green, Petrol, 1999, V reg, MoT until April 2011. £1100 ono
Tel: 07554 002330

1999 £1100 ono

Volkswagen Golf SE 1.6, Hatchback, Blue, Petrol, 2003, Tax - Jan 2011, m.o.t - July 2011, Full History. £3,200 ono
Tel: 07777 682319

2003 £3,200 ono

Volkswagen

Volkswagen Polo S

1.4, Hatchback, 5 door, 52000 miles, Green, Petrol, 2003, 03 reg, Manual, A/C, E/W, CD Player, ABS, PAS, Immobiliser, C/L, Driver/Passenger Airbags, Tax 'til 04/11, New front brake pads & catalytic converter Sept 10. £3,250 ono **Tel: 01604 585840**

2003 £3,250 ono

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Volkswagen

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2003 £2475 ono

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Volvo

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2003 £2,660 ono

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Mercury&Citizen

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or see the family announcements page for further details

Family Announcements

Place your announcement by phoning 01604 515000 www.northamptonchron.co.uk

Births

Batchelor - O'Brien

Congratulations Adele & Terry on the Birth of your gorgeous Son **Cohen Richard George** Born 19.12.10 Lost of love Mum, Bethany, Mia, Natalie, David, Faith and all the Family xxxx

Births

It's a girl!

Olivia Walding

Congratulations Liza and Gareth on the birth of your daughter Olivia lots of love always mum and dad xx

Mercury&Citizen To advertise 01604 515000

Births

DALY

Congratulations Carla & Gareth on the birth of your daughter **Chloe Lauren** and a precious Great-Granddaughter for us to treasure. Love to you all Nan & Pap Jones

x x x x

Births

Finn & Nicola KAY

Congratulations on the Birth of their Daughter **Charlotte Elizabeth Lily Kay** on the 5th November 2010 And a baby Sister for Emma. Love from Grandad David, Hazel, Amy and Talay. xxxx

TO PLACE YOUR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS CALL 01604 515000

Congratulations

Frankie, Freddie and Alfie STEAD

Your 3 little special boys to Mummy and Daddy, we love you more than words can say. With love Keeley Micky Rae and Jasmine

ANDREW & ANGIE Lambert CONGRATULATIONS

on the Birth of precious little Noah born on 19th December 2010. With love from Mum & Dad x x

Grace Eva Joan LAMBERT

Congratulations to Darren and Steph on the birth of Grace Eva Joan on 28th December 2010. Little Sister for Jamie, Granddaughter for Derek and Carol, and Niece for Dawn and Lee. xxx

IT'S A BOY

CLARKE - COLSTON

Glyn and Carol are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their Grandson **Charlie Mark** December 7th 2010. A Son for Sarah and Mark. Nephew for Andrew. Love and congratulations from all the family x x x

Charlie Mark COLSTON

Mark and Sarah are happy to announce the Birth of their Son, Charlie Mark. Born 7th December 2010 xxx

Mercury&Citizen To advertise 01604 515000

WAYNE & LISA STEAD

Congratulations on the birth of your Triplets, **Frankie Raymond Christopher, Freddie Wayne Glen,** and **Alfie Simon Mark.** Baby Brothers for **Keeley, Micky, Jaz** and **Rae.**

CONNOR - LOVEKIN

Congratulations Laura & Scott on the safe arrival of **Harrison James Leonard Lovekin** 7lb 2oz on Friday 10th December 2010 at Stoke Mandeville Hospital

Love from Mum, Dad, Rhianne & Dad Lovekin in Australia

Mercury&Citizen To advertise telephone 01604 515000

TO PLACE YOUR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS CALL 01604 515000

16th Birthday

Happy Birthday

Megan Ullah

Happy 16th Birthday MEGAN. Have a Great Day. Love From Mum,Iain, Nathan & chrissie.

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Family Announcements

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www.northamptonchron.co.uk

16th Birthday

KERI SEGNITZ
Happy 16th Birthday!
Hope you enjoy your special day. Lots of love from Nan. xxx

18th Birthday

Megan FORD
Happy 18th Megan
With love
All the family

Happy birthday Mummy
Lots of love & kisses
Alhia-Mai
x x x

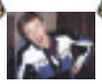
18th Birthday

Daniel HERBERT

Happy 18th Birthday Dan!
Have a great day.
Love from Mum, Ian and Sam
xxx

Daniel Herbert
Congratulations Daniel on your 18th Birthday. Enjoy life and be happy, you deserve it.
Love you loads
Nan & Pap Onley xxxx

21st Birthday



Ed DORGAN
31st December.

Happy 21st Birthday Ed!
Lots of Love
Mum, Dad, Henry and Millie
xxx

SOPHIE PURR
30.12.1989
Wishing our beautiful daughter & lovely sister a great 21st Birthday.
All our love from Mum, Dad & Tom x x x

Mercury&Citizen
To advertise
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50th Birthday

PETE WHITESTONE
Happy 50th Birthday.
You're the best Daddy and Pappy anyone could ask for.
Love you millions from Jasmin, Lainey and Jaiyda.
x x x

80th Birthday

JOHN AVIL

Much Love and Happy Birthday from all

the Family.
x x

Ruby Wedding

FLAVELL — Margaret & Keith
Congratulations on your Ruby Wedding!
Love Scott, Oliver, Lisa, Nigel, Keilan , Gemma, Mark and Morgan
xxxxxxxx

TO PLACE YOUR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS CALL 01604 515000

Diamond Wedding

Dot and Bill PIPER
Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
Congratulations
Have a lovely day
Lots of Love
Pat, Ken & Janet.
Grandchildren &
Great Grandchildren
x x x

Acknowledgements

JONES
Barry T.R (Joe)

Adam & Judith wish to thank all their Family & Friends, including members of Abington Bowls Club & Kingsthorpe Methodist Church, for the lovely flowers, cards & messages of kindness, love & sympathy at this sad time. Special thanks to Martin Swan for conducting the beautiful service.
Finally to B Hollowell & Son Funeral Directors for all their help & support.

York Gladys

The Family of the late Gladys York would like to thank relatives and friends for the many messages of sympathy and beautiful floral tributes sent in their recent sad loss.
Many thanks to the Rev. David Wiseman for the way he conducted the funeral service.
Special thanks to the Doctors and staff of Greenview Surgery for their care of Mum over the years.
Thanks also to B Hollowell Funeral Directors for the dignified way they carried out the funeral arrangements.
Please accept this as the only intimation.

In Memoriam

BAMPKIN — Tony. 19th Dec 1987. Still missed, loved and remembered every day. God bless Tony. Mum and Dad.

BAMPKIN — Tony. You will never walk alone. Years have come and gone so quick but you are always in our thoughts. Darren, Sadie and children.

In Memoriam

BEIJERS Phyllis
23.12.2000

Your life was full of loving deeds, forever thoughtful of my needs.
Today, tomorrow and my whole life through, I will always love and cherish you.

Love
Jim and Family
xxxxx

BRINKLOW — Les Died 1-1-05 Darling Husband, Dad and Pap. Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts. Love forever, Peg and Family.

DOHERTY Martin Christopher

Joined the Angels thirty one years ago today, aged 4 and half years.

Love and missing you.
Love Mom, Anna, Tracey, Rob and families
x x

EASTMENT — Brian Our dearly loved Brother who died a year ago today. June & Family.

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In Memoriam

HASLER George
26/12/06.
Treasured memories of happy days.
Reunited with Mum.
Loved and missed by all the family.
God Bless.
xxx

JOYCE Liliana Veronica
Passed away December 25th 2002.
Treasured memories of a beloved Wife of Bernard for 56 years.
Lili Ti Amaro Per Sempre Tua Beni!!!.

KNIGHT — Mark. If I could have one wish Mark it would be to have you home, to make your family whole and happy again. Sleep peacefully Big Man. Love Auntie Di, Uncle Liam, Kerry and Leanne.

MARTIN — Hilda 24th December 2003. Your memories are still with us Mum. Janet & Graham.

MAULE Vera
Passed away December 31st 1994

Treasured memories of our dear Mum
Always remembered
Never forgotten

God bless you Mum
Love Ian
and the late Delia
x x

MAULE Vera

To us you were someone special Nan,
What more can we say,
Except with all our hearts,
We wish you were here today.

Love from
Craig and Sarah
xxx

MAULE Vera
Passed away 31/12/94
Dear Nan of Serena
Sadly missed and always in my heart
x x

MAULE — Vera. A very dear Nan to Nick and Adrian.
You were so gentle,
You were so kind.
Such wonderful memories,
You left us behind.

MAULE — Vera. Loving Nan of Mark, Sam and Abigail, thinking of you today and always. x

In Memoriam

PERRIN Ted
21.12.2004

Precious memories of a dearly loved Husband and Father.
"Forever in our hearts".

Bettie and Family.

REDMOND Bill
In loving memory of a dear Husband, Father and Grandfather.
Along the road to yesterday, that leads us straight to you, are memories of happy days together we once knew. As we look upon your photos, sweet memories we recall of a face so full of sunshine and a smile for one and all.
Sadly missed by all your family.

ROSE Hilda Ruth

Passed away 6th January 2004
Loving Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother.
You are ever in my thoughts.
Frank
x

SMALL — Fernley (Sam) 28.12.06. Forever in our thoughts. Rita, Dave and Family.

SMITH James
Died 29th December 2009

Loving Husband, Father and Grandfather

We often talked about the old days we'd walk down memory lane
But my greatest wish would be today is to bring you home again

Love always
Barbara & Family
x x

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SMITH James
Pap-Although you're not here
to hold in my arms
Your loving ways & memories
remain in my heart
Stacey, Vince, Gabrielle, Callum & Shaye x

In Memoriam

SMITH James

Father of Jackie.
Sadly passed away 29th December 2009.
Sadly missed.
God bless you.

Love Jackie and John
x x

SUSAN MARY ADHEMAR

Always in our thoughts, loving you, always close to us.

Rodney, Heather & David, Christopher, Paul & Sharine, Kath, Michael & Bernie, Karen & Michelle.
Grandchildren Lucy, William, Shannon, Andrew, April and Eve.

' When we walked in fields of gold'

SYKES Norman

26th December 2009.
It may be a year but you are still always in our hearts Dad.
Love Eileen,
Billy and Family.

WOLFE John
28.12.09

In loving memory of a much loved Husband, Father and Grandad.
Your're in our thoughts and prayers daily.
The loving memories you gave us we will never forget and will be with us always.
Forever in our hearts, we love and miss you everyday, so sad and lonely without you.
God Bless, R.I.P

Love Bridget, Jean, Richard and all the Family xxx

TO PLACE YOUR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS CALL 01604 515000

WRIGHT Kevin
29/12/06
Cherished memories of my loving Husband.
I lost my life's companion
A life linked with my own
Day by day
I think of you
As I walk through life alone

The house you left is lonely now
and I am lonely too
Those left behind are good and kind
But no-one replaces you.

R.I.P
Love Ann xx

Birthday Memories

HEPWORTH Alfred (Al)

In loving memory on your Birthday.
The time and times we spent together are our treasured memories.
Alan & Jane.

In Memoriam

SMITH Valerie
May the winds of love blow softly
And whisper so that you hear
That we still love and miss you
As it dawns another year

Your ever loving
Husband Mick
Children
Juliette & John
Clive & Julie
Grandson Kyle
x x x x x x

Birthday Memories

THOMPSON-PETTITT Gareth
31 Birthday wishes we've sent to you above,
covered in special kisses, wrapped up with lots of love.
Krystal, Kieran, Mum, Dad, Richard & Katrina
x x x x x
Happy Birthday Gareth
in this your 31 year.
We love you and we miss you and wish that you were here.
Nan, Grandad and Donna
x x x
Happy Birthday Gareth.
31 years today.
Still loved and missed in every way.
Liz & Paul.
x x

THOMPSON-PETTIT Gareth

32 today.

Still Missed and loved.

Love
Liz and Paul

xx

Sarah Michelle WOOD
02.01.90
21st Birthday.
All our love always
Mum, Dad, Brothers and Nan xxx

YOUNG — Scott 24th December. Precious memories of my darling Son & Brother on his 37th Birthday. love you, from Mum and Family.

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Public Notices

CORBY ASPHALT & ROOFING LIMITED
Company No: 3305056
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation
The Insolvency Act 1986

Registered Office: 3rd Floor 39-45 Shaftesbury Avenue London W1D 6LA. Trading Address: Princewood Road Corby Northants NN17 4AP. We, John Dickinson and James Bradney of Bridge Business Recovery, 3rd Floor 39-45 Shaftesbury Avenue London W1D 6LA give notice that we were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company on 17/12/2010. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named Company which is being voluntarily wound up, are required to prove their debts by 16/03/2011 by sending to the undersigned John Dickinson and James Bradney of Bridge Business Recovery, 3rd Floor 39-45 Shaftesbury Avenue London W1D 6LA the Joint Liquidators of the Company, written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them from the Company and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary evidence as may appear to the Joint Liquidators to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved this debt before the declaration of any dividend is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the distribution of that dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt was proved. Dated: 17/12/2010

John Dickinson and James Bradney, Joint Liquidators (IP No. 9342 and 9259)
Contact: Melissa Sutlieff Tel: 0207 025 1576
Email: Melissa.Sutlieff@bridgebr.co.uk

T308543

Public Notices

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(a)
THE A5 TRUNK ROAD
(TOWCESTER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on the A5 Trunk Road at Towcester in the County of Northamptonshire to allow resurfacing work to be carried out.

The effect of the order will be to -
(a) close the A5 between a point 110 metres north and a point 125 metres south of the centre point of its junction with Brackley Road/Northampton Road at Towcester; and
(b) prohibit vehicles from waiting on the verge adjacent to the length of the A5 described at (a) above.

The work will be carried out overnight between 18.00 hours and 06.00 hours and is expected to start on Saturday 15 January 2011 and continue for six nights. The Order will come into force on 10 January 2011.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services and vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closure and prohibition. Diversion routes will be well signed.

MIKE LLOYD A Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

General enquiries relating to these works may be made to Andrew Perry, Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency, on 01536 419600.

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- Separate WC
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- Gas Central Heating

KINGSLEY £525 PCM

TO LET

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- Bathroom with Shower
- Fitted Kitchen
- Sun Room
- Lounge / Diner
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central heating

ABINGTON £550 PCM

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Public Notices

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(a)
THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (WEEDON TO NORTH OF KILSBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport has made an Order on lengths of the A5 Trunk Road between Weedon and Kilsby in the County of Northamptonshire to allow resurfacing and general maintenance work to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to -

(a) close the northbound and southbound carriageways of the A5 from its junction with the A45 (Weedon Crossroads) to its roundabout junction with the A428 (Dirft Roundabout);
(b) impose a 40 miles per hour speed restriction on the northbound and southbound carriageways of the A5 from a point 300 metres north of its junction with the A45 (Weedon Crossroads) to A428 (Dirft Roundabout);
(c) impose a 10 miles per hour speed restriction on lengths of the A5 described in (a) when signs indicating "convoy working" are being displayed;
(d) close any layby adjacent to the lengths of the A5 described in (a) above; and
(e) prohibit overtaking on the length of the A5 described in (a) above.

Work will be carried out between 2000 hours and 0600 hours on Mondays to Fridays and at weekends from 2000 hours on Fridays to 0600 hours on Mondays and is expected to start on Monday 10 January 2011 and continue for approximately five weeks. The laybys described in (d) above will be closed 24 hours a day during the work period. The Order will come into force on 7 January 2011.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services will be exempt from the speed restrictions, closures and prohibitions. Vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closures. Access to property will be maintained at all times.

Diversion routes will be well signed.

Mike Lloyd, A Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

General enquiries relating to these works may be made to Helen Beech, Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency, on 01623 886 602.

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14(1)(a)
THE A5 TRUNK ROAD (WEEDON TO TOWCESTER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an Order on the A5 Trunk Road between Weedon and Towcester in the County of Northamptonshire to allow resurfacing and general maintenance work to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to –

(a) close the northbound and southbound carriageway of the A5 from its junction with the A45 (Weedon Crossroads) to its roundabout junction with the A43 (Towcester Roundabout);
(b) impose a 40 miles per hour speed restriction on the length of the A5 described in (a) above;
(c) impose a 10 miles per hour speed restriction on lengths of the A5 described in (a) above when signs indicating "convoy working" are displayed;
(d) close any layby adjacent to the length of the A5 described in (a) above; and
(e) prohibit overtaking on the length of the A5 described in (a) above.

The work is expected to be carried out over weekends during the period 29 January 2011 and 31 March 2011, from 20.00 hrs on Friday to 06.00 hrs on Monday. In addition, the 40 mph speed limit and lay-by closures will be in operation during the same overnight hours Monday to Thursday. The overtaking prohibition will be in operation permanently throughout the period. The Order will come into force on 21 January 2011.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services will be exempt from the speed restrictions, closures and prohibition. Vehicles being used in connection with the works will be exempt from the closures. Access to property will be maintained at all times.

Diversion routes will be well signed.

MIKE LLOYD, A Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

General enquiries relating to these works may be made to Helen Beech, Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency, on 01623 886 602.

Public Notices

HIGHWAYS AGENCY

HIGHWAYS AGENCY
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984- SECTION 14(1)(a)
THE M1 MOTORWAY (JUNCTIONS 15A - 16) (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2011

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for Transport intends to make an Order on the M1 Motorway, between Junctions 15a and 16 in the County of Northamptonshire, to allow resurfacing and associated works to take place.

The effect of the Order will be to –

(a) impose a 50 miles per hour speed restriction on –
  (i) the northbound carriageway of the M1 from a point 5 kilometres north of Junction 15a to the centre point of Junction 16;
  (ii) the slip road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M1 at Junction 16;
(b) close the –
  (i) northbound carriageway of the M1 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 15a to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 16 and allow traffic to run on the hard shoulder for part of this length;
  (ii) slip road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M1 at Junction 16; and
  (iii) slip road leading to the northbound carriageway of the M1 at Junction 15a.

Work will be carried out overnight between 20:00 hours and 05:00 hours on Monday to Thursday, 22:00 hours and 06:00 hours on Friday, 19:00 hours and 08:00 hours on Saturday, and 22:00 hours and 10:00 hours on Sunday. The work is expected to start on Monday 31 January 2011 and continue for 2 weeks. The Order will come into force on 24 January 2011.

Vehicles being used by the emergency services will be exempt from the speed restriction and closures. Vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer will be exempt from the closures. A diversion route will be well signed.

Mike Lloyd, A Higher Executive Officer in the Highways Agency

General enquiries relating to this notice may be made to Mike Newman, Project Manager on behalf of the Highways Agency, by telephoning him on 01623 886 572.

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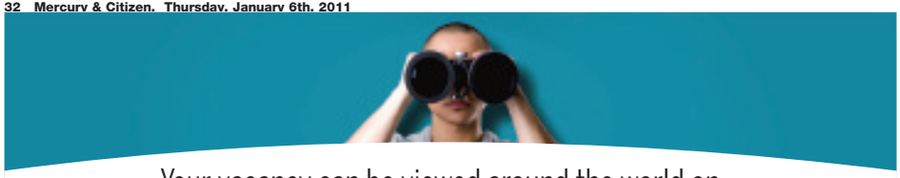

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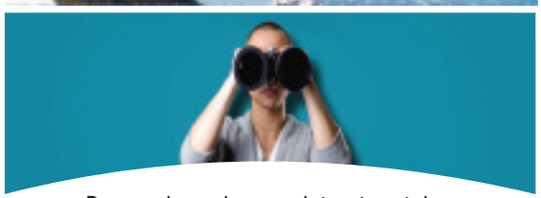

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Beckwith tells Town players to forget about Crewe horror show...
Just get over it!

Sport

Saints have to keep cool

MARK ROBINSON has told his old Saints team they will have to keep cool in the face of Leicester's intimidatory tactics if they are to win at Welford Road (ko 5.30pm) on Saturday.

The former Saints favourite famously scored a 60-metre interception try to inspire a 10-9 win at Welford Road in 2007.

Robinson, known throughout his five-year career at the Gardens as Sharky, recalled how Saints stayed focused in the face of Leicester's strong arm tactics to seal a win that was the last time Northampton won at the home of their east midlands rivals.

And the 35-year-old former scrum-half is expecting Leicester to employ more roughing-up treatment this Saturday as they look to gain revenge for an opening day beating at Franklin's Gardens that saw their pack well and truly tamed.

Robinson, who retired from playing at the end of last season because of a knee injury after leaving Saints to join Wasps, said: "If Saints don't get caught up in Leicester's bullying I think they will do the double over them.

"I wouldn't be surprised to see the Leicester forwards try to intimidate the Northampton players and get after people like Hartley and Lawes, try to be overly aggressive, try and get into them and really upset them. Leicester will be so fired up looking for revenge from that opening day defeat.

"I remember when I was at Northampton and we played poorly away and got beat, we wanted to make sure we beat them at home.

"When you add in it is a local derby as well, there will be a lot of motivation.

"The decision makers and the guys in the backline have got to make sure they stay calm and they are composed.

"They can't play into Leicester's hands. You can't take a step back, but if they try and play Leicester at their own game and try to intimidate it will take the focus off their game.

"It takes a bit of grit and determination to win at Leicester.

"When Northampton played Leicester on the opening day of the season they absolutely smashed them, and the reason they dominated was because their forward pack really took control of the game. They have to do that again on Saturday."

Saints go into the derby on the back of only their second Aviva Premiership defeat of the season, having lost 16-13 to Harlequins at Franklin's Gardens on New Year's Day.

JJ'S FLYING - John Johnson celebrates his stunning late strike which saw the Cobblers beat Lincoln City 2-1 at Sixfields on Monday
PICTURE: KELLY COOPER

Shaun deal could be dead, admits Sammo

IAN SAMPSON admits bringing Burton Albion striker Shaun Harrad to the Cobblers is now a 'long shot'.

But the Town manager has confirmed that, as things stand, Northampton are the only club to have made an approach to the Brewers for their highly-rated 25-year-old, who scored minutes after coming on as a substitute in Monday's 2-1 loss at Port Vale.

Burton have had no other interest in Harrad, who has scored 31 goals in the past season and a half, and with whom talks over a new contract are effectively over.

Thanks to the money generated by the Carling Cup run and bigger gates at Sixfields than those at the Pirelli Stadium, Northampton are in a position to offer the striker improved terms.

But the message Harrad and his agent have sent is that they are looking for a move to npower League One at least.

And although the player is top of Sampson's January shopping list, he will not spend the whole month waiting for a verdict and is prepared to move on to other targets.

"It's probably a long shot now, which is a shame because he's a good player, he works hard and he gets in behind a lot," he said.

"He thinks he's good enough for league one or the championship but as far as I know they haven't had any takers from that level.

"We're the only ones that have made a bid so far.

"He and his agent haven't ruled us out and that hasn't changed but we're not going to wait forever; if he doesn't want to come here, he doesn't want to come here.

"If something else comes up in the meantime then we'll have to explore our options."

One of those options could be Rene Howe, a player who has been linked with the Cobblers by supporters and one watched by Sampson on a scouting mission several years ago.

Howe has just finished a loan spell at non-League Rushden & Diamonds, for whom he has scored six times in 19 appearances, and he would certainly fit the bill for a new striker in terms of his physical attributes.

"He's a player that's well known to myself," said Sampson. "He's obviously played for Kettering and he's doing well at Rushden.

"I went to watch him a few years ago at Bedford when Colin (Calderwood) was in charge so I know a lot about him.

"I wouldn't rule him in and I wouldn't rule him out."

The Cobblers were 2-1 winners over Lincoln City at Sixfields on Monday thanks to an 88th-minute screamer from John Johnson.

That result keeps Town in touch with the promotion play-off pack, and on Saturday they entertain the team occupying the final place in the top seven, Cheltenham Town.

If the Cobblers were to win the Sixfields clash (ko 3pm), they would move to within three points of the Robins.

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